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WE GO TO HOSPITAL

BY

Alan Nauyakvik

Jeannie Kopalie

Ooleepeeka Poisey

WE GO TO HOSPITAL

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WE GO TO HOSPITAL

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by

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FOREWORD

Broughton Island is an isolated area on the north side of Baffin Island. The nearest large settlement is Frobisher Bay.

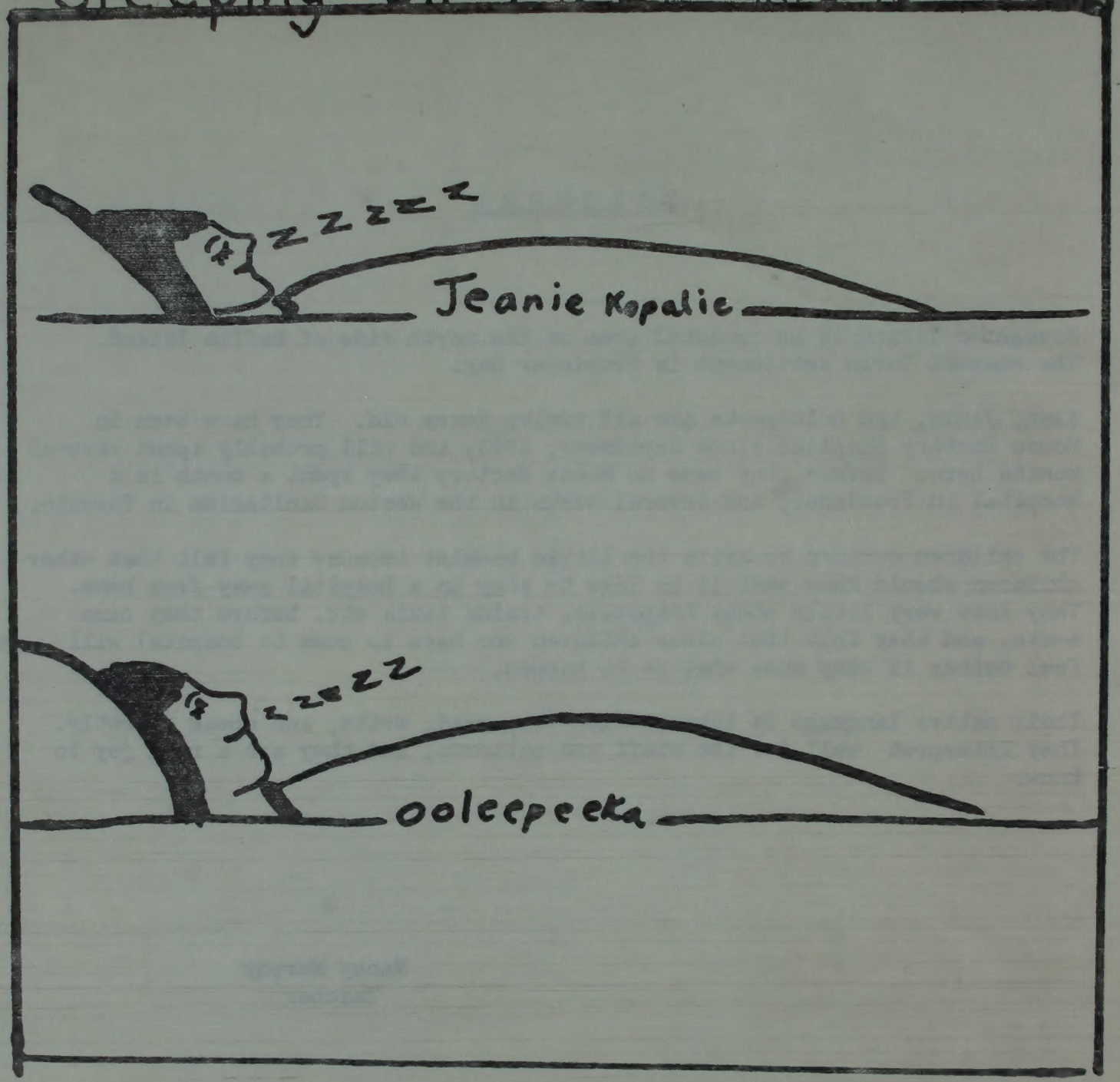
Alan, Janie, and Ooleepeeka are all twelve years old. They have been in Moose Factory Hospital since September, 1968, and will probably spend several months here. Before they came to Moose Factory they spent a month in a hospital in Frobisher, and several weeks in the Weston Sanitarium in Toronto.

The children decided to write the little booklet because they felt that other children should know what it is like to stay in a hospital away from home. They knew very little about hospitals, trains taxis etc. before they came south, and they felt that other children who have to come to hospital will feel better if they know what is to happen.

Their native language is Eskimo which they read, write, and speak fluently. They interpret well for the staff and patients, and they are a real joy to know.

Nancy Murphy
Teacher

Sleeping on the Train



THE TRIP ON THE PLANE

There were lots of people on the plane. They were all going to Frobisher Bay. They were all going to the hospital in Toronto. There were five people. They were children and big people. We got on the plane in the afternoon. The plane was a DC-3. It was sunny in Broughton Island and it was sunny in Frobisher Bay too. A nurse met us in Frobisher Bay and took us in a car. The car went to the hospital in Frobisher Bay. We stayed there till a month.

We got an another plane and went to Montreal. It took a long time. There were lots of teachers on the plane with me and other people. A man came to meet us at the plane in Montreal. He took us to the Airport. Then I got on another plane and went to Toronto. Ooleepeeka stayed in a house in Montreal for one day. Then she went to Toronto.

Jeannie

IN THE HOSPITAL IN TORONTO

There were twenty-five children in the hospital. There were white covers on the beds. There were pictures of the bird and the house and seals on the walls. They were nice pictures. We could go outside. We played outside. We played baseball.

We had a teacher. His name was Mr. Peer. We had arithmetics and workbooks and read the books. All the time we went to school. School was over at eleven. We go to supper.

We had pills in the morning and needles too in the morning. I had five pills and one needle every day. I didn't like the pills, but I take them because they help make me better. I am still taking pills. I still take five. I get a needle every day.

I like Toronto because it's a good place. I saw lots of people

Alan

THE TAXI RIDE

The taxi came to the hospital in the daytime. We put the suitcases in the back and the front. We went to the train.

We saw cars on the streets, and people, lots of people. We saw big houses and stores. That's all.

When we got to the train station we got out of the taxi. We carried the suitcases to the train. My box was heavy. We had to wait for a little while to get on the train. Then we go.

Jeannie

TORONTO TO MOOSE FACTORY

It was still light when we got on the train Jeannie and Alan and Mosesee and lots of other people were on the train. Pauline was with us. Muriel was with us. We sit for a while on the train. We had a sandwich. We read comic books. Then we went to bed. One bed is top. One bed is on the bottom. I slept on the bottom. There were two blankets. There was one pillow. There were little lights. I turned them off. Jeannie was on top. She had two blankets too. She had one pillow. I slept a little bit. The train was moving. It was going to Moose Factory. The train took a long time. We lie down in the day. We had candies and lunch. We got off the train in Moosonee. We got into the bus.

Ooleepeeka

THE BUS AND THE BOAT

When we got off the train we went to the bus. It was not a big bus. It took us to the boat. There were about seven people on the bus. We went down a hill to get to the boat. It was not a big hill. The man carried my box to the boat. There were two boats. The man driving the boat sat back. I sat in the middle. I sat with Jeannie and Adla. We came across the river. It is called the Moose River. The water is like brown. I think it was cold. It took a little time to cross the river. We came to Moose Factory to the hospital. The man carried my box again. We came inside the hospital and sit on the chair.

Ooleepeeka

MOOSE FACTORY HOSPITAL

The hospital in Moose Factory is a big hospital. There are about one hundred people. There are nurses. Pauline and Pat and Elizabeth and Mary and more Elizabeth and Alice are nurses on our ward. The ward is Ward Five. There are doctors. My doctor has red hair. I think that's funny. Some patients have tuberculosis. That is sick in your chest. We are here so that we can get better. We take pills to help us get better. Some ladies have babies in the other part of the hospital. Other people are sick stomachs. There are nurses and doctors for everybody. We will stay here until we get better. We will go home to Broughton Island.

Jeannie

THE HOSPITAL CLASSROOM

The classroom is downstairs. The ward is upstairs. We come downstairs at ten-thirty. We stay for a couple of hours. We draw a picture we are making for a book. The book is about Moose Factory and Moosonee and train and bed and bus and classroom. I like making a book.

We talk about our pictures and type a story. We will do arithmetic. We will do English and something with bread. Sometimes I read. I am looking at a picture dictionary. I see pictures and letters and words. I like school, I think.

Ooleepeeka

THE LITTLE CHILDREN

There are little children upstairs. This morning we painted. We started to paint hospital and playground and dock and boat. The little children will look at the picture. Ooleepeeka helps with the cleaning in the babies room. Ooleepeeka took the babies' temperatures with a thermometer. Jeannie and Alan helped the childre in the playroom. They all played together. It's good for the big children to help the little children.

This morning we got gastric. Jeannie will get one tomorrow. The little babies get gastrics Tomorrow we will help with the babies. When we have babies we will help them.

Sometimes we help the little children with lunch and supper and breakfast time. It's fun to help the little children and it's fun to help the nurses too.

Jeannie , Ooleepeeka , Alan

THE PLAYGROUND

The playground is down there. It is at the back of the hospital. We play there. We play like a merry-go-round, a slide, a swing and teeter totter. Some girls play there. Some boys, too. The little children play there. Sometimes we take Barbara and Veronica and Mosesee and Jonathon and Lena and Elizabeth and Edna and sometime Maggie. They have fun. We have fun too. We will play in the playground in the wintertime, sometimes. It is a big playground. Around it there is a cage - a fence. The fence is grey. Toronto's playground was smaller, but it was fun too.

Ooleepeeka
Jeannie
Alan

BROUGHTON ISLAND

We will go home when we get better. We will get home on an airplane. I will go and Jeannie will go and Ooleepeeka will go home.

First, we will go back to Montreal, and then we will go the Frobisher Bay and then going home.

My father and my mother will be there. Rosie and Neevee will be there. They will be happy to see me. We will go to our house. We will sit and talk and eat.

I will go to school in Broughton Island. I is a little school. We will learn spelling and crithmetics and workbooks and everything. It wil be nice to be going home.

Alan

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